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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: LEBANON TRIBUNAL: OLA AND LEBANESE NEARING
SOLUTION FOR COMPENSATING JUDGES

REF: A. A. USUN 104

[1](#)B. B. STATE 10709

[1](#)1. (SBU) UN Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs Larry Johnson advised Amb. Wallace on February 6 that the Lebanese Government is provisionally amenable to the new proposal described in ref A for compensating the Lebanese judges for the risk associated with their service to the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, but awaits final approval for this proposal from PM Siniora. The GOL is now trying to identify the required funds in the Lebanese budget and determine how to transfer those funds to a bank account in New York for the judges' use.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Under this proposal, as soon as the UN announces the Lebanese judges' selection but before the judges assume their duties, the Lebanese government would make a lump-sum payment into a blind trust account at JP Morgan. The sum would not exceed the equivalent of USD 5000 for each month the Lebanese judges are expected to serve on the Tribunal. According to Johnson, the payment would be comparable to the UN's evacuation payments to staff, which are the equivalent of USD 4,800 per month. JP Morgan, as trustee, would make incremental payments to the judges from the trust as long as the UN certifies to JP Morgan that the Lebanese judges are continuing to serve on the Tribunal. At the UN's request, the Management Committee would have no role in establishing or administering the blind trust.

[1](#)4. (U) COMMENT: As this proposal falls within reftel instructions, Mission plans to support it within the Management Committee of the tribunal, assuming the GOL identifies the required funds. END COMMENT.
KHALILZAD